IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 5 and 10 as follows:

1   1.(Currently Amended)   A method of providing a service to

2   distribute electronic content to a plurality of addressees via a

3   data network, the method comprising the acts of:

4   identifying respective edge servers in said network that are

5   in close proximity with respective groups of addressees from among

6   the plurality of addressees;

7   sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of

8   the electronic content to the identified respective edge servers

9   and said respective groups of addressees associated with the

10   identified respective edge servers; and

11   enabling the identified respective edge servers to send

12   individual copies of the electronic content to individual ones of

13   the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of

14   addressees.

1   2.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the

2   enabling act further comprises the act of supplying a list of

3   identifiers of the addressees of the identified respective edge

4   server's respective group to the identified respective edge server.

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1   3.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the

2   electronic content comprises an e-mail.

1   4.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 1, wherein the

2   sending act further comprises sending a first portion of the

3   electronic content to the respective identified edge servers.

1   5.(Currently Amended)   A method of distributing electronic

2   content via a data network to a plurality of addressees, the method

3   comprising the acts of:

4   identifying respective edge servers that are in close

5   proximity to respective groups of addressees among the plurality of

6   addresses;

7   sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of

8   the content to the identified respective edge servers and said

9   respective groups of addressees associated with the identified

10 respective edge servers; and

11   enabling the identified respective edge servers to send

12 individual copies of the electronic content to individual ones of

13 the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of

14 addressees.

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1   6.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 5, wherein the

2   enabling act further comprises the act of supplying a list of

3   identifiers of the addressees of the identified edge server's

4   respective group to the identified respective edge server.

1   7.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 5, wherein the

2   electronic content comprises an e-mail.

1   8.(Previously Presented)   The method of claim 5, further

2   comprising sending a first portion of the electronic content to the

3   identified respective edge servers; enabling the identified

4   respective edge servers to add a second portion to the first

5   portion; and enabling the identified respective edge servers to

6   send the first and second portions to the individual addressees in

7   the respective groups of addressees.

        Claim 9 (Canceled)

1   10.(Currently Amended)   A computer program product that

2   includes a computer readable medium having instructions stored

3   thereon for ~~generating individual copies of the electronic content~~

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4   ~~for individual ones of the addressees upon receipt of the~~

5   ~~electronic content together with a list of addresses~~ :

6   enabling identification of respective edge servers in a

7   network that are in close proximity with respective groups of

8   addressees from among a plurality of addressees;

9   sending to the identified respective edge servers one copy of

10   an electronic content and said respective groups of addressees

11   associated with the identified respective edge servers; and

12   enabling the identified respective edge servers to send

13   individual copies of the electronic content to individual ones of

14   the addressees in the identified edge server's respective group of

15   addressees.

1   11.(Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 4, wherein the

2   enabling act further comprises the acts of:

3   enabling the identified edge server to add a second portion of

4   the electronic content to the first portion of the electronic

5   content; and

6   enabling the identified edge servers to send individual copies

7   of the electronic content to individual ones of the addressees in

8   the respective groups.

1   12.(Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 2, wherein the

2   supplied list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified

3   respective edge server's respective group are addressable via the

4   identified edge servers.

1   13.(Previously Presented)   The method of Claim 6, wherein the

2   supplied list of identifiers of the addressees of the identified

3   respective edge server's respective group are addressable via the

4   identified edge servers.